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Compendium to

# The Family as a Focus for Social Policy

A Brief Description of the  
Government of Ontario's  
Programs that Assist Families

September 1979



Ontario

The Honourable Margaret Birch  
Provincial Secretary  
for Social Development





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This publication has been prepared as a compendium to the discussion paper "The Family As A Focus For Social Policy". It provides a brief description of the Government of Ontario's programs that assist families. Further details about these programs are available upon request from the respective ministries. Copies of the discussion paper and the compendium are available from the Ontario Government Book Store at no charge.

This identification of the role that the Ontario government plays through family-related programs and policies is part of our effort to stimulate a province-wide discussion about families. The family should be the focus for social policies in Ontario and it is our hope that this principle receive wide public consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Birch".

Margaret Birch,  
Provincial Secretary  
for Social Development.



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## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

### INTRODUCTION

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Information Branch  
Ministry of Agriculture and Food  
10th Floor, 1200 Bay Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1A5

(416) 965-1056

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

#### 4-H Agricultural and Homemaking Clubs

The aim of Ontario's 4-H clubs is to develop young people as members of their family, community and country. The 4-H designation refers to "head, heart, hands and health", the primary areas of development that are emphasized in club activities. Clubs are organized under volunteer leadership, and members meet regularly to plan and carry out group projects, through which they "learn by doing".

#### Junior Farmer Programs

Junior Farmer clubs are organized to encourage self-help and community improvement. Members participate in a variety of educational, social and recreational activities.

#### Junior Agriculturalist Program

Each summer, young people who have no farming experience, but who are interested in agriculture, are placed on host commercial farms to gain an understanding of farm work and an appreciation of life in rural Ontario.

## HOME ECONOMICS PROGRAMS

### Programs for Rural Adults

Programs in foods and nutrition, clothing, home furnishing and home crafts are offered in the form of training schools, food forums, short courses and lectures.

### Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario

The Ministry provides administrative support to this organization.

## AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES

The Ministry provides financial assistance and administrative support for the staging of agricultural fairs and for the programs of local Horticultural Societies. The Societies are set up pursuant to the following Acts:

The Agricultural Societies Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.15.

The Horticultural Societies Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.207.

## CONSUMER PROGRAMS

Activities include preparation and distribution of promotional pamphlets, educational booklets, press releases and recipes, and the delivery of lectures on how to buy and prepare nutritious food. In addition, the Ministry responds to written and telephone requests for information on nutrition, food processing, food safety and energy conservation. Several hundred inquiries are handled each year.

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Ministry provides formal educational opportunities to people who wish to improve their knowledge and skills in the development and use of agriculture and food resources. The principal programs are summarized below.

### Diploma Program

Courses are offered at five locations in Ontario, in the following subject areas: agricultural production and management, horticultural production and management, agricultural mechanics, agricultural business and commerce, agricultural laboratory technology, animal health technology, equine technology, foods and fashions, and community home economics.

### Correspondence Courses

Home study courses on a wide variety of subjects are available on a credit or non-credit basis.

### Adult Education

The Ministry provides short courses on topics of current interest and on particular skills. Programs include certificate courses in cheese and butter making, and management training for farm workers.

## FARM MANAGEMENT ADVISORY AND COUNSELLING SERVICES

Diagnostic and advisory services are provided in all aspects of farm management, including crop and livestock production practices, marketing, estate planning, record keeping and financial planning.

## FAMILY FARM TASK FORCE

A one-man task force is currently conducting a study of family farms in Ontario. The aims of the study are

- To identify major economic and social pressures, as perceived by farm families, which may limit the ability of the family farm to survive as an efficient, mobile and productive unit; and
- To suggest policy initiatives that will encourage and assist family farm units to respond positively to the identified pressures.



## MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

### INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of the Attorney General is responsible for the administration of justice in the province. Legislation administered by the Ministry is concerned primarily with achieving a proper balance of rights and responsibilities between people as individuals and also as members of families.

When a dispute arises between family members which cannot be resolved privately, the matter is usually taken to court. Outlined below are some of the features of provincial courts and tribunals involved in the settlement process and some of the back-up services provided by the Ministry.

Further information can be obtained from

Communications Branch  
Ministry of the Attorney General  
18th Floor, 18 King Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5C 1C5

(416) 965-9111

### PROVINCIAL COURT (FAMILY DIVISION)

Family courts deal with the following legal issues:

- Parent-child rights and obligations (support, custody, access, freedom from harassment);
- Rights and obligations between spouses (support, freedom from harassment, possession of the matrimonial home);
- Proceedings involving child protection and neglect; and
- Prosecutions of criminal conduct of children (delinquency) and of criminal conduct involving child victims (contributing to delinquency).

Family courts provide other services in addition to adjudication. Court clinics provide counselling for family members involved in litigation, and they also make available social and psychiatric assessments to the judge at trial.

There are about seventy-five family court judges in Ontario, and sittings are held at 120 locations throughout the province.

The Provincial Courts Act, R.S.O. 1970, c. 369.

### FAMILY COURT CONCILIATION PROJECTS

At the provincial court in Toronto, a demonstration project is under way which uses social counsellors to identify and clarify points of disagreement and conflict among family members, especially spouses. Families are referred by courts, social agencies or lawyers, and counsellors work to minimize bitterness and long court battles and to save court time. Seven hundred cases have been dealt with since 1976. The project is funded partly by the federal Department of National Health and Welfare and partly by the province. There is no cost to the families involved. Similar projects have been introduced in Hamilton, Kingston and Kitchener.

### AUTOMATIC AND RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF MAINTENANCE ORDERS

A person with a court order for support (a spouse, ex-spouse, parent, child) may file the order in a family court, so that the court clerk can enforce it against the debtor. The clerk has power to have the property of the debtor seized or to divert debts due to that person, in order to ensure that the support is paid. If the individual fails to make the payment and cannot prove inability to pay, the court may take further action to obtain the amount due and may impose penalties for default. The enforcement service applies to support orders issued in Ontario and elsewhere in Canada, as well as in certain states of the United States and in some other countries.

The Family Law Reform Act, 1978, S.O. 1978, c.2.  
The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.403.

### UNIFIED FAMILY COURT

Although most family matters can now be dealt with in the provincial court (family division), some actions between spouses - for example, divorce - must be heard in a superior court. In order to consolidate court proceedings pertaining to different aspects of a family dispute, the Ministry has established a unified family court in the judicial district of Hamilton-Wentworth. This court can settle in one action all matters at issue in a family dispute. At the same location, a wide range of support services also is available, including conciliation and psychiatric assessment.

The Unified Family Court Act, S.O. 1976, c.85.

### PROVINCIAL COURT (CRIMINAL DIVISION)

The criminal division of the provincial court deals with offences against statutes other than those within the jurisdiction of the family division. There are various courts within this system, including traffic tribunals (accident courts) and traffic courts for minor offences. In 1977-78, the number of charges laid totalled 1,874,000 outside the Toronto area and more than 93,000 in Toronto. French-language services were introduced in 1978 in eleven judicial districts.

### SMALL CLAIMS COURTS

Small claims courts provide a convenient and inexpensive method of deciding claims for payment or damages up to \$1,000, without the necessity of representation by a lawyer. In some small claims courts, a referee has been appointed as a service for debtors overburdened with claims or judgments against them. The referee can arrange schemes of repayment with creditors or apply to a judge for a consolidation order. In the latter instance, where there are three or more judgments against a debtor, he/she may pay an affordable amount into the court, which then pays out to the creditors. Debt counselling also is provided by the referee.

The Small Claims Court Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.439.

Recently, legislation has been passed to establish a provincial court (civil division) in the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto. This court would have the same jurisdiction as a small claims court with the authority to order payment or make awards of damages up to \$3,000.

The Provincial Court (Civil Division) Project Act, 1979  
Bill 113, to be proclaimed.

### SURROGATE COURTS

Surrogate courts deal with questions involving wills, in proving their contents and settling their meaning. The judges also authorize individuals to act as executors or administrators of the property of deceased persons.

The Surrogate Courts Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.451.

### LEGAL AID

The Ministry participates with the federal government and the legal profession in Ontario in funding the province's legal aid plan. The plan, which is administered by the Law Society of Upper Canada, ensures that qualifying Ontario residents who cannot afford lawyers' services may receive them free of charge or for a small percentage of the costs. Slightly more than half of the legal aid cases handled each year concern criminal charges; the rest are civil disputes, mainly domestic. Appeals also are covered under the plan, subject to the approval of a review committee.

Legal aid provides duty counsel in provincial court to advise of legal rights and to assist those appearing without lawyers. It also finances community law clinics and university student legal aid societies. There are forty-six legal aid offices throughout Ontario.

The Legal Aid Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.239.



### OFFICIAL GUARDIAN

The Official Guardian acts on behalf of persons under a legal disability such as minors, persons with a mental disability and persons absent from the province when they become involved in court action. He is appointed guardian ad litem (representative at trial) for children involved in proceedings concerning custody, access, abuse or wardship. The office of the Official Guardian also provides legal services and advice to unmarried mothers who wish to give their children up for adoption. In 1977, the office's staff of sixty-one persons handled almost 19,000 cases.

The Judicature Act, R.S.O. 1970, s.107(2).

### PUBLIC TRUSTEE

The Public Trustee's duties include estate administration for mentally incompetent persons (undertaken without cost to the individual or his/her family) and for Ontario residents who die without a will and who have no relatives in the province. The office also supervises the administration of charities and protects their rights when gifts are made to them, and administers special trusts under various statutes (such as workmen's compensation and compensation for victims of crime). More than 52,000 active files were handled in 1977-78.

The Public Trustee Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.389.

### CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION BOARD

The Board provides financial compensation for innocent victims of crime, so that family and other obligations may be met. Awards are made for personal injuries, when a person is injured or killed as a result of a crime of violence (excepting motor vehicle injuries unless the vehicle was used as a weapon) or when an individual is lawfully arresting or assisting a policeman to arrest someone, or preventing injury to another person. Hearings are held in six locations throughout Ontario. Awards of about \$1,612,000 were made in 1977-78.

The Compensation for Victims of Crime Act, S.O. 1971, c.51.

### ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD

The Board's function is to control the growth and economic stability of municipalities in Ontario. Issues determined by the Board include the establishment and dissolution of municipalities, control over municipal expenditures, approval of official plans and zoning. In 1977, the Board received more than 8,500 applications and held about 2,000 hearings across the province.

The Ontario Municipal Board Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.323.

### ASSESSMENT REVIEW COURT

The assessment review court hears appeals from assessment of real property for taxation purposes, so that property owners can obtain inexpensive redress if they feel that their assessment is too high. It also hears applications for cancellation, reduction or refund of municipal taxes (where a local by-law authorizes this, or a council decision has been reached in the matter), and appeals against a municipal clerk's refusal to change school support lists. In 1977-78, the court determined 127,400 complaints, appeals and applications.

The Assessment Review Court Act, S.O. 1970, c.111.

### ONTARIO LAW REFORM COMMISSION

The Ontario Law Reform Commission inquires into reform of laws and legal institutions, and produces reports recommending changes where advisable to ensure that laws operate fairly and effectively. The Commission created the impetus toward change in family law, which culminated in The Family Law Reform Act, 1978, S.O. 1978, c.2; The Marriage Act, S.O. 1977, c.42; and The Children's Law Reform Act, S.O. 1977, c.41. Studies now under way include consumer protection law and the enforcement of judgment debts. The Commission was established in 1964 and as of 1978 has produced fifty-three reports.

The Ontario Law Reform Commission Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.321.

## MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Community and Social Services provides programs and services for the mentally and physically handicapped and the elderly; financial assistance for those in need of either short-term or long-term aid; services for children, such as foster care, day care and probation. Many of these activities are aimed at helping individuals and families to overcome difficulties which may be too onerous for them to resolve themselves.

Ministry programs are cost shared with the federal government under the Canada Assistance Plan and the Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Agreement and, in some cases, with municipalities. The figures reported below are for total costs before sharing with the federal government.

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Communications Branch  
Ministry of Community and Social Services  
7th Floor, Hepburn Block  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1E9

(416) 965-7825

or by calling your local Ministry office listed in the telephone directory.

### FAMILY BENEFITS PROGRAM

The family benefits program provides long-term financial support to families and individuals who are in financial need, including single mothers, disabled individuals, dependent fathers, the elderly and the permanently unemployable. In 1978-79, the program served an average of 227,000 people per month, at a total annual cost of \$395 million.

The Family Benefits Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.157.

### MUNICIPAL WELFARE

Funds are available to municipalities and Indian Bands for the provision of short-term financial support to individuals and families in need. This support may take the form of general assistance; special assistance for the cost of drugs, dental services and similar expenses; and supplementary aid to meet the cost of extraordinary needs of recipients of governmental benefits. In 1978-79, approximately 79,000 persons were served per month, and program costs for the year amounted to \$174 million.

The General Welfare Assistance Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.192.



### HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S ALLOWANCE

Financial assistance is provided to families with handicapped children, so that they can keep the child in the family setting. The number of families served as at March 31, 1979 was estimated at 1,400 and program costs for 1978-79 were about \$2.2 million.

The Family Benefits Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.157.

### COUNSELLING SERVICES FOR RECIPIENTS OF FAMILY BENEFITS ASSISTANCE

Counselling services may be purchased from family service agencies for social assistance recipients and their dependents, in order to resolve problems that interfere with the satisfactory functioning of family members.

More than 1,700 cases were served in 1977-78, costing \$664,000.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.120.

### PROJECTS FOR SOLE-SUPPORT MOTHERS

The Ministry provides vocational counselling and employment preparation courses to enable sole-support mothers receiving social assistance to achieve their goal of financial independence by obtaining employment. An estimated 1,900 mothers were served in 1978-79 at a cost of \$500,000.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.120.

### WORK ACTIVITY PROJECTS

Funding is available to municipalities to provide training and work experience for persons on social assistance who have difficulty in obtaining employment. More than 1,800 people were served in 1978-79, for a cost of \$1.2 million.

The General Welfare Assistance Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.192.

### HALFWAY HOUSES

The Ministry provides funds to non-profit organizations to finance the cost of accommodation and counselling for alcoholics, offenders and the socially disadvantaged, so that they can become integrated into the community and provide support for their families. About 600 people received help in 1978-79, at a cost of \$2.5 million.

The Charitable Institutions Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.62.

### ADULT GROUP HOMES

Funding is available to non-profit organizations for the purpose of providing residential accommodation to adults who are disabled and unable to remain with their families. These non-profit corporations also provide social and recreational services, and some offer accommodation for spouses. Nearly 300 residents were supported in 1978-79, at a cost of \$560,000.

The Charitable Institutions Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.62.

### SOLDIERS AID COMMISSION

The program spends about \$25,000 a year in assistance to veterans and their families in emergency situations, to enable them to obtain dentures, eyeglasses and hearing aids.

The Soldiers Aid Commission Act, R.S.O. 1960, c.377, amended 1970, c.83.

### SOCIAL ASSISTANCE REVIEW BOARD

The Social Assistance Review Board is an appeal tribunal for applicants for, or recipients of, allowances under The Family Benefits Act, The General Welfare Assistance Act, The Vocational Rehabilitation Services Act or The Guaranteed Annual Income Act. The Board is concerned primarily with adjudicating disagreements with decisions made by directors or administrators of the programs concerned. In 1978-79, the Board held more than 3,500 hearings and spent about \$850,000.

The Family Benefits Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.157.

The General Welfare Assistance Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.192.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.484.

The Ontario Guaranteed Annual Income Act, S.O. 1974, c.58.

### HOMEMAKERS AND NURSES SERVICES

The Ministry shares with municipalities the cost of providing necessary home care services to the elderly, handicapped, ill or convalescent and to families during times of domestic crisis. There were 60,000 cases in 1977-78, costing \$6.5 million.

The Homemakers and Nurses Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.203.

### VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

The Ministry provides support for vocational counselling, training expenses, training allowances and workshops for mentally, physically or emotionally handicapped persons who are unable to enter the labour

market. The aim is to give these individuals the necessary treatment, assessment or training that will restore or improve their health and, if possible, enable them and their families to become self-supporting. Approximately 13,000 persons were served in 1978-79, for a cost of \$6.2 million.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.484.

#### REHABILITATION EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

Funding is available to non-profit organizations that operate workshops for handicapped persons. About \$22 million in operating subsidies was spent in 1977-78 on providing 9,200 spaces in 200 employment programs across the province.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.484.

#### CREDIT COUNSELLING

The Ministry provides funding for counselling services to assist individuals and families who are financially overcommitted or seriously in debt. The aim of the program is to help these people to resolve their financial problems and settle their debts. In 1977-78, 12,700 cases were handled, involving 38,000 persons, for a cost of \$600,000.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.120.

#### SENIOR VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE

The Ministry supports the training of senior volunteers to provide assistance to senior citizens and their families in small municipalities (up to 25,000 in population). There were 134 volunteers in 1978-79, and the program cost \$76,000.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.120.

#### ELDERLY PERSONS' CENTRES

The Ministry contributes to the cost of operating centres that provide social, recreational or other services to elderly persons living in the community. About 120 centres were supported in 1978-79 for a cost of \$1.6 million.

The Elderly Persons Centres Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.140.

#### RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Funding is available to municipalities and charitable corporations for the provision of residential services for persons aged sixty or over whose families (if any) are unable to support them. In 1978-79, the program served 28,000 people in 180 homes, at a cost of \$107 million.

The Homes for the Aged and Rest Homes Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.206.  
The Charitable Institutions Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.62.



### MENTAL RETARDATION FACILITIES

The Ministry maintains institutional facilities to ensure that a full range of treatment and training services is available to retarded persons who are unable to live with their families. In 1979, there are about 7,100 residents of such institutions, and the program cost is about \$181 million.

The Developmental Services Act, R.S.O. 1974, c.2.  
The Homes for Retarded Persons Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.204.

### RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY HANDICAPPED

The Ministry makes funds available to charitable organizations providing supervised living accommodation, treatment and training programs for developmentally handicapped persons. More than 2,600 persons were assisted in 1978-79, for a cost of \$13.5 million.

The Homes for Retarded Persons Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.204.

### FAMILY SUPPORT WORKERS

The Ministry provides family support workers, as well as funds to non-profit organizations, to assist families who have a handicapped child living at home. The worker identifies the needs of the family; refers members of the family to services within the community; and monitors and evaluates the services provided. In 1978-79, more than 1,000 people received assistance from family support workers in the community. The program cost for the year was about \$375,000.

The Developmental Services Act, S.O. 1974, c.2.

### PARENT RELIEF PROGRAM

The Ministry supplies personnel, as well as funding to non-profit organizations, for the provision of relief services to families with developmentally handicapped children. Short-term substitute care is provided both in homes and in centres for developmentally handicapped children to ease family tensions and allow families to keep children at home. Almost 1,500 families obtained relief in 1978-79, for a cost of \$454,000.

The Developmental Services Act, S.O. 1974, c.2.

### RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY HANDICAPPED

Funding is available, primarily to municipalities, for the provision of recreational programs for developmentally handicapped persons. This is a support service to families to help keep handicapped persons at home or in the community. About 2,500 people received services in 1978-79, for a program cost of \$196,000.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.120.

### INFANT STIMULATION PROGRAM

Through personnel and funding, the Ministry provides workers to instruct parents in skills for teaching developmentally or physically handicapped infants under two years of age. In 1978-79, 1,000 families were served for a cost of \$1.1 million.

The Developmental Services Act, R.S.O. 1974, c.2.

### BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY HANDICAPPED

The Ministry provides workers and funding to non-profit organizations to assist families with developmentally handicapped children over two years of age. About 800 families obtained these services in 1978-79, for a cost of \$671,400.

The Developmental Services Act, R.S.O. 1974, c.2.

### ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICE WORKERS

Funding is provided to non-profit organizations to assist developmentally handicapped adults who are living apart from their families in the community. Workers identify the needs of their clients and help them to obtain services from appropriate community agencies. The number of persons served is not available, but the cost in 1978-79 was \$12 million.

The Developmental Services Act, R.S.O. 1974, c.2.

### CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETIES

The fifty Children's Aid Societies in the province operate a variety of mandatory and voluntary services, which are financed, inspected and supervised by the Ministry's Children's Services Division. Services include protection and prevention (24,000 cases in 1979); services to unmarried mothers (2,150 cases); adoption (1,100 children on adoption probation); foster care (6,600 foster homes); and residential services for neglected, abused and/or handicapped children and youth in care (14,200 cases). Transfer payments to Societies for 1979-80 will total about \$105.1 million.

The Child Welfare Act, S.O. 1978, c.85.

### CHILD WELFARE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS

The Children's Services Division funds specific demonstration projects and developmental programs such as those in the Ministry's current Child Abuse Program and those based on recommendations arising from the Task Force on Child Abuse (the Garber Report). The 1979-80 budget for child abuse programs and implementation of the Garber Report is \$3.3 million.

The Child Welfare Act, S.O. 1978, c.85.

### CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH CENTRES AND REGIONAL COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTRES

The Children's Services Division plans, develops, licenses and provides operating funds for children's mental health services for emotionally disturbed children and youth. Sixty-six independently operated residential and non-residential children's mental health centres (fully funded by the Ministry) offer the following services: inpatient, outpatient, day care, emergency services, special education in conjunction with Ministry of Education, community consultation, education and training, family therapy, assessment and follow-up services, counselling. Program operating costs for 1979-80 are \$56.5 million.

Two Ministry-operated regional community mental health centres (Thistletown and White Oaks) function as centres for teaching, research and evaluation, consultation and specialized treatment, serving about 1,350 clients in 1978. Operating costs for 1979-80 are \$8.3 million.

The Children's Mental Health Services Act, S.O. 1978, c.67.  
The Mental Health Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.269.

### DAY NURSERIES

The Ministry provides day care for children, including the developmentally handicapped, during the working day or for that part of it when the child is not in school. Program subsidies are available to municipalities, Indian Bands, and approved corporations and operators for families in need or with developmentally handicapped children. Services include full day care for infants and preschool children or for developmentally handicapped children up to the age of eighteen; day care for children up to the age of ten (twelve in special circumstances) during out-of-school hours; half-day nursery school programs; private home day care; and in-home instruction programs for parents of handicapped children. About 62,000 children were receiving service as at January 1979. The 1979-80 operating budget for day nurseries is \$42.5 million, including \$6.4 million for developmentally handicapped children.

The Day Nurseries Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.104.

### DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

The Ministry provides residential services for developmentally handicapped children who cannot be cared for in their own homes, as well as community support services operated by a variety of agencies for developmentally handicapped children and their families. Residential facilities for about 1,000 profoundly handicapped children are operated directly and fully funded by the Ministry. The Ministry also pays the full cost of community board-operated facilities to nurse, care for, treat or train developmentally handicapped children requiring institutionalization. These facilities also function as

community resource centres, providing assessment and diagnostic services to the community at large, crisis intervention and parent relief, parent instruction programs, and research and education in mental retardation.

In addition, an accommodation program funds up to 80% of operating costs for residences for the developmentally handicapped operated by approved corporations, usually local associations for the mentally retarded.

The total budget for 1979-80 for direct operating costs and transfer payments is \$51.7 million.

The Developmental Services Act, S.O. 1974, c.2.

The Homes for Retarded Persons Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.204.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.120.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.484.

### JUVENILE DIVERSION AND PREVENTION PROJECTS

The Ministry initiates projects aimed at assisting children who are in conflict with the law and/or exhibit socially problematic behaviour. The 1979-80 budget is \$500,000.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.120.

### FAMILY COURT CLINICS

At the court's request, family court clinics provide assessment, counselling and (in custody and access disputes) conciliation services for children and/or family members involved in child welfare, juvenile or domestic court cases. The clinic then recommends to the court an appropriate type of intervention and notes what community services are available. About 1,100 families are referred annually. Direct operating costs for 1979-80 are approximately \$1.2 million (a portion of which is provided by the Ministry of Health).

The Provincial Courts Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.369.

### PROBATION AND AFTERCARE SERVICES (JUVENILE)

The Ministry operates a referral counselling service for juvenile probationers from family court orders and a counselling and placement service for wards sent to training school. The family is usually involved in the counselling and aftercare program. The average number of clients per month in 1978-79 was about 3,900 probationers and 2,100 clients in aftercare. The service is fully funded by the province, with a 1979-80 budget of \$11.1 million.

The Provincial Courts Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.369.



## MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

### INTRODUCTION

The Ministry's diverse services include helping promote ethical conduct in the marketplace and public safety in buildings and keeping records on all companies operating in the province and real estate ownership. In addition, several programs focus on the family.

### CONSUMER INFORMATION CENTRE

By phoning collect from anywhere in the province, (416) 963-1111, families may receive advice on a wide range of consumer concerns including shopping, credit and home and car repairs from the multilingual information officers. The centre houses a collection of resources widely used by teachers, community information centre staff and family counsellors. Through its Outreach program, staff provide consumer education to families disadvantaged by income, education or other handicaps. As well as assisting teachers in setting up consumer courses, staff have assembled an activity kit for International Year of the Child for use in elementary schools across the province.

### OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

The office has been maintaining records on births, deaths, marriages and other vital events for the past 120 years. It issues birth certificates and, with the agreement of the courts, registers parents of illegitimate children. The Marriage Act, 1977 also administered by this office, sets the minimum marriage age at 16 and empowers religious officials and justices of the peace to perform the ceremony.

### THEATRES BRANCH

The Branch, which includes the Ontario Censor Board, classifies films and videotapes as restricted to persons 18 and older, adult entertainment or general admission. Reflecting community standards, the Board may also request cuts or prohibit films or videotapes from being shown in the province.

### LIQUOR LICENCE BOARD OF ONTARIO

The Board has developed guidelines for beer, wine and cider advertising and promotion which encourage safe and moderate consumption without appealing to those not of legal age (19) to drink alcoholic beverages.

### THE RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES COMMISSION

The Commission helps ensure that families pay fair home rental prices by requiring landlords seeking increases of more than six per cent annually to apply to the Commission for approval. The Residential Tenancies Act, which the Commission administers, governs many other aspects of landlord-tenant relations including the amount of notice required before vacating and resolution of financial disputes.

The Residential Tenancies Act, 1979, S.O. 1979, c.78 (parts were proclaimed on August 17, 1979)

## MINISTRY OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

### INTRODUCTION

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Information Services  
Ministry of Correctional Services  
2001 Eglinton Avenue East  
Scarborough, Ontario  
M1L 4P2

(416) 750-3421

or by calling your local Ministry office listed in the telephone directory.

### FAMILIES AND FRIENDS CENTRES

Facilities have been established at 558 Gerrard Street East in Toronto for the provision of advisory and other support services to persons whose relatives are inmates of the adjacent Toronto jail. The project has been organized jointly by the Ministry, the Junior League of Toronto and the Elizabeth Fry Society. The cost to the Ministry is payment of a \$12,000 salary to a part-time project coordinator.

### OPERATION SPRINGBOARD

A volunteer agency in Ontario provides transportation, in cases of need, to the families of men who are serving prison terms in institutions distant from their home community. The aim of the program is to maintain family ties during the period of incarceration. The Ministry supports the program through an annual grant of \$5,000.

### TEMPORARY ABSENCE PROGRAM

The Ministry operates a program that allows men and women confined to correctional institutions to leave the institution daily, or for a longer period, for humanitarian, medical or rehabilitative purposes. The program supports families in various ways:

- The offender engages in paid employment and contributes a portion of his or her earnings to the family.

- As far as possible, the status of a father or mother and wage-earner is maintained within the family.
- Weekend visits home are allowed, as is attendance at funerals and weddings.

More than 12,000 absences were granted in 1978, most of them for family reasons.

### VISITS BY FAMILIES

Every correctional institution, jail or otherwise, provides supervised visiting opportunities for husbands, wives and children of inmates. Such visiting is strongly encouraged; and, consistent with space available and security considerations, visiting areas are set aside that allow personal contact between family members.

### FAMILY COUNSELLING

Each institution has a chaplaincy service, which provides family counselling for inmates and their spouses. Large institutions have at least one or more full-time paid chaplains; smaller institutions have paid part-time chaplains or unpaid volunteers. The Salvation Army attends all institutions and receives an annual grant of \$73,000 from the Ministry for this purpose. The Hamilton-Wentworth Detention Centre and the Toronto Jail have a wives' group operated by the John Howard Society. The group offers counselling and assistance to wives having difficulties during the incarceration of the husband. The John Howard Society receives a grant from the Ministry but costs are not recorded on a project-by-project basis.

### COURT-JAIL CRISIS INTERVENTION

The Church Army in Canada (Anglican) maintains a service that makes contact with the person in court and follows him or her to jail, providing the individual and his or her family with information and counselling. The Ministry makes a grant of \$7,200 to the Church Army in support of this service.

## MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND RECREATION

### INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Culture and Recreation is responsible for the promotion and support of a wide range of cultural and recreational activities and services throughout Ontario. Its goal is to enrich the quality of life for residents of the province, by encouraging the participation of individuals and families in community life and in cultural and recreational development. Policies and programs are designed to support, coordinate and stimulate initiatives at the local level.

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Communications Branch  
Ministry of Culture and Recreation  
6th Floor, 77 Bloor Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 2R9

(416) 965-0615

or by calling your regional Ministry office listed in the telephone directory.

### NEWCOMER SERVICES

The Ministry assists new residents of the province by providing reception and other services, so that individuals and families can become fully participating and contributing members of Ontario society.

#### Reception

A multilingual reception service operates in both terminals of Toronto International Airport, providing newcomers with "Welcome Kits" and information on immediate practical needs. In addition, there is a Welcome House in Toronto, which provides settlement, counselling, information and referral services in nineteen languages.

#### Orientation

The Ministry prepares and distributes information about government and community services available in Ontario. The program encourages community involvement through grants, and coordinates and assists language classes in the community including training assistance to volunteer teachers.



### Language Training

The Ministry prepares and distributes language learning publications to all Ontario teachers and their students in adult newcomer language and citizenship classes across Ontario. In addition, it contributes to the training of teachers of English as a second language through the provision of reference materials, seminars and advisory services, and through other forms of support. The Ministry also runs its own ESL school at Welcome House with a preschool program for the children; as well, financial support is given to more than 100 parent and pre-school programs, which assist parents in learning English as well as other necessary skills and prepares children for integration into the school system.

### MULTICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry's multicultural development program is aimed at promoting intergroup/intercultural understanding and harmonious relationships among the various ethn-ocultural groups in the province. It is also designed to help institutions to become aware of and sensitive to the cultural characteristics or needs of the ethnocultural families and groups that they serve.

#### Institutional Development

The Ministry works with school boards, teachers' organizations, hospitals, social service agencies, community colleges, government bodies and established voluntary agencies, in promoting intergroup understanding and assisting professionals to respond to the needs of a multicultural clientele.

#### Community Participation

The Ministry works with community organizations and groups to encourage multicultural sharing. Specifically, it provides advisory, informational and coordinating services to enable local groups to establish their own programs and activities.

### SPECIAL SERVICES FOR NATIVE PEOPLE

It is the Ministry's policy to provide services to native people which will encourage them to become self-reliant and to participate fully in Ontario's society, while at the same time preserving and maintaining continuity with their cultural heritage. Through financial and advisory support, the Ministry endeavours to promote the development of human resources and leadership in native communities; to stimulate socio-economic initiatives among native groups; and to facilitate direct access to government services and resources for individuals, families and native groups. In addition, advisory services on programs and policies affecting native people are provided to other provincial ministries and agencies, in order to assist direct communication between native people and government.

### COMMUNITY INFORMATION SERVICES

The program offers financial and advisory assistance for the development and support of a network of easily accessible community information centres that provide problem-solving information to individuals and families in local communities.

### CITIZENS' INQUIRY BUREAU

The Citizens' Inquiry Bureau provides information about and referral to all Ontario government ministries, for those individuals seeking access to services.

### PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES

The Ministry supports a province-wide system of public libraries, through the provision of financial aid and advisory assistance, the performance of statistical measurements, the organization of seminars and educational programs and the preparation of various related publications.

The Public Libraries Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.28.

### ARTS SERVICES

The Ministry operates a program that aims at encouraging participation in arts activities; fostering a better understanding and appreciation of the arts, particularly through the education system; and maximizing the variety and availability of art resources and activities in the province. Outreach Ontario transports cultural resources located in the Metropolitan Toronto area to other communities throughout Ontario, facilitating public access and participation in cultural programs. Festival Ontario encourages the organization of community arts festivals and other events by making available the resources of provincially supported cultural agencies, without charge to participating communities.

### PHYSICAL FITNESS

The Ministry's fitness program has six main components. First, there is a province-wide promotional campaign, aimed at increasing public awareness of the importance of physical fitness and motivating people to attain it through their own initiative. Second, the Ministry operates seven mobile units, which travel to communities throughout the province, helping individuals to devise their own fitness programs and promoting physical fitness among local groups. Third, a network of clinics has been established across the province, for the purpose of upgrading the skills and increasing the number of fitness instructors in Ontario. Fourth, the Ministry provides a combined

consulting service and information package to business and industry, describing how best to develop an employee fitness program, how industries can best use existing facilities in the community, and what degree of success has been attained by existing company programs. Fifth, the Ministry is encouraging the formation of coordinating groups at the local level, whose role is to work with community agencies, as well as with medical associations, industries and business, and the media, to maximize the effectiveness of programs already in place and to suggest where further development might be most productive. Finally, two fitness awards have been introduced (FitFive and Family FitTogether) for the purpose of encouraging individuals and families to achieve a high level of physical activity.

### SPECIAL SERVICES

This is another multifaceted program established to encourage and facilitate the delivery, at the community level, of leisure, recreational and informal learning services to Ontario residents. The program includes consultative and sustaining grant support for provincial recreation organizations; assistance with the growth and development of recreation education and leisure studies at all levels; support of leadership education; encouragement of leisure education among individuals, groups and institutions at the community level; advisory and informational support for community development of recreational services; consultation on the use and/or development of open space for outdoor recreation; advice on the development of recreational services for physically, mentally and emotionally handicapped people; assistance to over thirty provincial and national youth serving agencies having a strong recreation or leisure component; a consultative service for camping, outdoor recreation and outdoor education organizations, and leadership training assistance for executives and program participants; the operation of a training centre for camp instructors and other leaders of recreation programs at Bark Lake, Irondale; and advisory and informational services regarding recreation and leisure programming for families, senior citizens and people about to retire.

### SPORTS SERVICES

The Ministry promotes individual and group participation in sports programs, for personal satisfaction and enjoyment, as well as for the development of athletic skills. Ontario Sports Travelcade uses a mobile resource centre to take information to communities throughout the province, and also to conduct leadership and promotion clinics.

### CAPITAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Ministry's capital support program provides facilities planning services, recreation facilities research, and funding for cultural and recreational capital projects and facilities supported by and based in the community. Assistance is available for the construction or renovation of structures such as concert halls, art galleries, exhibition and community recreation centres, libraries, cultural centres and sports facilities.

The Community Recreation Centres Act, S.O. 1974, c.80.

### WINTARIO PROGRAM

The Wintario program was established to provide funds for culture, recreation, sports and fitness in Ontario, in addition to and distinct from the normal support provided by the Ministry of Culture and Recreation.

The program encourages community groups to plan and develop activities that are relevant to and supported by their communities.

The Ontario Lottery Corporation Act, S.O. 1974, c.126.

### MINISTRY AGENCIES

The Ministry provides funds in support of CJRT-FM, a non-profit radio station, whose programming encourages an appreciation of the arts and also includes a strong educational component.

The Ministry is responsible for the Ontario Educational Communications Authority (OECA), an agency whose function is to provide learning opportunities for the citizens of Ontario via the electronic media. Learning systems developed or acquired by the OECA are composed of television programs and related print material and utilization activities. They are produced for school, post-secondary and open sector audiences in both English and French.

The Ontario Educational Communications Authority Act,  
R.S.O. 1970, c.311.

Also affiliated with the Ministry are various other agencies whose role is to administer the province's cultural and scientific resources for the benefit of individuals and families. Huronia Historical Parks and Old Fort William promote an appreciation of Canada's history; the Ontario Science Centre stimulates interest in science and technology; the McMichael Canadian Collection and the Art Gallery of Ontario maintain permanent collections of visual art; the Royal Ontario Museum encourages an understanding of the natural world and of man's cultural achievements; and the Royal Botanical Gardens interprets the world of plants. The Ministry also provides grants in support of local museums and art galleries.



## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

### INTRODUCTION

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Communications Services  
Ministry of Education  
14th Floor, Mowat Block  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1L2

(416) 965-6407

### PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

#### Elementary and Secondary Schools

The Ministry provides funding to school boards that offer programs which prepare individuals to enter the adult world as wage and salary earners or homemakers, or both, and to some degree prepared to accept family responsibilities. In 1979, 1,800,000 students were enrolled in such programs in Ontario's public schools, and the cost to the Ministry was over \$2.0 billion.

The Education Act, S.O. 1974, c.109.

#### Post-Secondary Institutions

The Ministry provides funding to 22 colleges of applied arts and technology (CAATS), 15 universities, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, and the Ontario College of Art for the purpose of educating and training individuals for employment in both professional fields and trades. Early childhood education programs are provided in all colleges of applied arts and technology. About 219,000 full-time and 140,000 part-time students were enrolled in both universities and colleges in 1978, and the cost of the program was \$1.01 billion. The federal government purchased an additional \$73 million in adult training, most of it from CAATS.

The Ministry of Colleges and Universities Act, S.O. 1971.

#### The Apprenticeship Training Program

Over 200 skilled trades are formally recognized in Ontario. The Ministry's apprenticeship training program provides standardized training for all trades and, in particular, supervises approximately forty trades that are regulated by statute. The number of participants enrolled in 1978 in all trades was about 30,000, and the program cost was \$15 million.

The Apprenticeship and Tradesmen's Qualification Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.24 (as amended 1971 and 1972).

### Manpower Training

The Manpower Training Branch administers a new program to develop employer-sponsored training in cooperation with unions, institutions and companies throughout the province.

### Ontario Student Assistance Program

The student assistance program provides financial assistance to post-secondary students based on an assessment of need as determined by family income. In 1978, about \$77.7 million in grants was awarded to 48,000 recipients. More than 67,000 students, including many who also received grants, shared \$79 million in federally subsidized loans administered by the province.

Regulations issued under The Ministry of Colleges and Universities Act, S.O. 1973, c.106.

### Health Professionals

All colleges of applied arts and technology in Ontario have nursing programs, ten have nursing assistants courses and eleven have dental assistants courses. Five universities have medical schools, two have schools of dentistry and eight have schools of nursing. A new and growing area of specialization in some schools is family medicine.

## INCOME MANAGEMENT

### Consumer Education and Protection

At present, one college of applied arts and technology in Ontario offers a course in consumer education. Additional courses can be developed for grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 from the guideline "Consumer Studies, Intermediate and Senior Divisions, 1972". Courses also can be developed at the grade 13 level, if a proposed course outline is approved by both the local school board and the Ministry of Education. More than 30,000 persons were enrolled in consumer education programs in 1978.

## PREPARATION FOR FAMILY LIFE

### Guidance Counselling

Guidance counselling is provided in all secondary schools. Senior elementary schools in some jurisdictions also provide counselling. Parental consultation by school counsellors is part of the service provided.

### Family Life Studies

Courses in family life studies are available in Ontario's secondary schools. At the post-secondary level, three universities provide degree courses in home economics, and two offer undergraduate and graduate programs in family studies and family science. One college of applied arts and technology provides a combined consumer/family studies program.

(Note: Programs for single parents and arrangements in which services are limited to programs are becoming common: for example, job seeking skills for single parents, emergency help centres for families, etc.)

### Health Education

A curriculum for health education is provided by all elementary and secondary schools in the province.

## THE FAMILY AND THE SCHOOL

### Home and School Relations

The Ministry provides grants to the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations and the Federation of Catholic Parent-Teacher Associations of Ontario. The grants totalled \$34,000 in 1977.

### Home Visiting Teachers

Some boards of education make teachers available to visit students confined to the home for extended periods because of illness.

### Community Schools

The Ministry encourages the partnership of the school and community whose members come together to respond to specific needs, identified by the people of that community. Parents and other residents may be involved in the daily life of the school, and may use the school as a neighbourhood cultural, social and learning centre.

During the past 5 years, about \$2.5 million in seed grants was awarded to school boards to assist in their efforts toward interaction with individuals, families and community agencies.

### Continuing Education

All school boards and all colleges and universities provide programs of continuing education for adults of all ages. Many family members enrol in courses for the purpose of self-development, making good use of their leisure time, developing or improving certain life skills, or in order to obtain current information on a topic of interest or concern.

## MINISTRY OF HEALTH

### INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Health supports a system of health services for Ontario residents, based on the principle of universal access. Although these services are generally directed to and used by individuals, their availability, quality and scope also have a strong impact on the welfare and well-being of the family.

The health programs mentioned below are funded in total or in part by the Ministry. In most instances, the delivery of services takes place through community health agencies, such as hospitals and health units.

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Communications Branch  
Ministry of Health  
9th Floor, Hepburn Block  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1R3

(416) 965-4220

### PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICES

Public health nursing services are aimed at the prevention of illness and disease. Some are directed to children, others to the elderly, still others to parents. In 1978-79, the cost of the program was about \$30 million.

#### Prenatal Education

The program provides a series of classes on pregnancy, childbearing, nutrition and infant care, and exercises relating to childbirth, with the aim of preparing prospective parents for the arrival of their child. In 1978, forty health units in Ontario held more than 8,500 classes, attended by 142,000 people.

#### Parent Education

Parents of infants and young children are offered a series of classes respecting health supervision, nutrition, growth and development, infant stimulation, immunization and behaviour problems. In 1978, forty health units held almost 1,900 classes, with more than 19,000 parents enrolled.

#### Child Health Conferences

Limited to some health units, this program provides health supervision, screening and immunization for infants and children, and counselling to



parents on various problems. In 1978, there were 3,200 sessions, with an attendance of over 19,000.

#### Day Care and Day Nursery Health Supervision

The program provides health supervision to children in day care centres and day nurseries. Services include identification and follow-up of children with special health needs, and liaison with home/school and day care centres.

#### Preschool Health Assessment

The program, which varies in content between health units, may include health assessment, developmental screening, vision and hearing testing, parent counselling in child growth and development and behaviour problems, and referrals for further evaluation. In 1978, there were more than 6,000 health assessment sessions, involving about 67,000 children.

#### School Health Services

School health services include a wide range of services to children, such as health supervision and assessment, counselling, immunization, vision and hearing testing, health education, and screening for and prevention of communicable diseases; and to parents, such as liaison on health matters, counselling and referrals. In 1978, 444,000 children were involved in vision testing, 260,000 in hearing testing and 443,000 in screening for communicable diseases.

#### Home Visits

Public health nurses may make home visits for reasons such as information gathering, prevention or treatment related to various health concerns. These include post partum and neonatal adjustment, preschool care, school health, mental health, accident prevention, infant stimulation, lifestyle diseases, communicable diseases and care of the elderly. In 1978, public health nurses in Ontario made 196,000 new home visits and 331,000 return visits.

#### Nutrition Services

Nutrition services are provided to families primarily through the counselling and group education programs conducted by public health nurses and dental staff, teachers and fitness counsellors. To equip these professionals to undertake nutrition education, twenty-seven public health units have nutritionists on staff to develop appropriate resource material and conduct inservice education workshops and provide nutrition consultation. The cost of this program in 1978-79 was \$530,000.

The Public Health Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.377.

## DENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Preventive dental health programs vary in content but are basically school oriented. Dental staff visit Ontario elementary schools at least once a year and conduct approved programs. The cost for 1978-79 was about \$3.2 million.

Dental treatment services are also provided in eight health units to selected groups of children. The Ministry's share for these services was \$366,600 in 1978.

The Ministry operates a fleet of ten Mobile Dental Coaches providing preventive and basic treatment services to preschool and elementary school children residing in the remote areas of the province. There were approximately 20,000 patient-visits in 1978-79 at a cost of \$536,000.

The Public Health Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.377.

## CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

### Sexually Transmitted Disease

The program has three components. Clinical services offer diagnostic, treatment and follow-up care to individuals in sixteen health units and fifteen hospital outpatient departments. In 1978, the attendance was 53,000. Epidemiological services include the reporting of cases, contact follow-up and tabulation of data; and educational services are provided to the public, in schools and through health professionals. The cost of the program in 1978 was \$677,000.

The Venereal Diseases Prevention Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.479.

### Chest Disease

The service is concerned primarily with the diagnosis, treatment, control and prevention of all types of tuberculosis. However, the area of responsibility has widened over the years to include assessment of acceptability of prospective immigrants in whom a diagnosis of tuberculosis is reported, pre-employment chest X-ray, pulmonary function testing and continuing surveillance of miners in northern Ontario.

The cost of the program for 1978-79 was \$3.6 million, and about 243,000 people attended hospital chest clinics. For the miners, 10,500 pulmonary function tests and 30,000 X-ray examinations were performed.

The Public Health Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.377.

The Sanatoria for Consumptives Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.422.

The Mining Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.274.

### Childhood and Other Communicable Diseases

The Ministry offers services for the prevention and control of diseases such as diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, measles, german measles, mumps, typhoid and rabies. The services include educational activities, provision of vaccine and epidemiological surveillance. In 1978-79, 3,570,000 doses of vaccine were administered at a cost of \$7.8 million.

The Public Health Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.377.

### NEWBORN SCREENING

Newborn infants are routinely tested for phenylketonuria and hypothyroidism, and appropriate follow-up and treatment measures are taken with infants that have either disease, in order to prevent mental retardation. In 1978-79, 95% of newborn children in Ontario were screened: five infants with phenylketonuria and nine with hypothyroidism were identified. The cost of the program was \$110,000.

### FAMILY PLANNING

Family planning services are provided through public health units. They include educational and promotional activities, individual counselling, and clinical activities such as the provision of contraceptive devices, laboratory tests and follow-up. In 1978, there were 21,000 new clinic visits, 41,000 return visits and 24,000 community outreach activities. The program cost was about \$2.8 million.

The Public Health Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.377.

### TREATMENT OF ALCOHOLISM AND OTHER DRUG ABUSE PROGRAMS

#### Detoxification

Fourteen detoxification centres are operated in Ontario. They provide a quiet, non-threatening environment during the detoxification period for alcoholics and chronic drunkenness offenders. They are a less costly alternative to hospitalization or incarceration. In 1978, there were 30,000 admissions representing about 12,000 individuals. The cost for 1978-79 was \$3 million.

#### Grants-in-Aid

The Ministry provides financial assistance for the development of services in the community for rehabilitation and education related to alcoholism and other drug abuse. In 1978-79, there were seventeen residential outpatient and other support facilities in the province, serving 1,200 clients per year. The program cost was \$429,000, as non-statutory grants.

The Public Hospitals Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.378.

## HOME CARE

Professional health care and support services may be provided in the patient's home instead of, or to shorten, a hospital stay. The services provided include visiting nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social work services, nutrition counselling, visiting homemaker services and other services such as drugs, medical supplies, sickroom equipment and meals-on-wheels. For 1978-79, home care covered 70,000 patients with a budget of \$26.2 million.

The Health Insurance Act, S.O. 1972, c.91.

## EXTENDED CARE

Extended care services are available to anyone, young or old, who has been living in Ontario for at least a year immediately prior to making application and who is entitled to receive insured services under the plan, if the daily needs for nursing and personal care exceed one and a half hours. There are approximately 8,500 admissions to the program each year. The cost appropriation for 1979-80 is \$144 million.

The Health Insurance Act, S.O. 1972, c.91.

The Nursing Homes Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.302.

## HEALTH INSURANCE

### Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP)

Eligible persons enrolled in the plan are entitled to payments for their use of specified health services. Payments cover ambulance services, professional services for medical, dental, optometric, chiropractic, osteopathic, chiropodic and physiotherapy care; and hospitalization, including laboratory and X-ray services, drug plan (persons age 65 and over), extended health care and home care. In 1978-79, the insured population was 8.4 million and the program cost was \$3.4 billion.

### OHIP Premium Assistance

The Ministry provides partial or full premium assistance to persons with low income, or the unemployed, and residents aged 65 and over, social assistance recipients, persons on veteran's pension and persons with temporary financial difficulties. About 2,000,000 individuals were funded in 1978-79, for a cost of \$340 million.

The Health Insurance Act, S.O. 1972, c.91.

## Drug Benefits

Selected prescribed drugs are provided free of charge to Canadians and landed immigrants who have resided in Ontario for one year and who are



sixty-five years of age or over; and to individuals under sixty-five years of age who are receiving provincial or municipal assistance. In 1978-79, free drugs were provided to 1,200,000 persons, at a cost of about \$107 million.

The Ministry of Health Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.114.

The Family Benefits Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.157.

## MENTAL HEALTH

### Psychiatric Hospitals

Inpatient and outpatient diagnostic and treatment services are provided for individuals with mental illness. In 1978-79, the cost was \$152 million for 1,500,100 inpatient days, 295,000 outpatient visits and 260,000 day care days.

### Homes for Special Care

Nursing home and residential home care is available for former patients of psychiatric hospitals. The 1978-79 patient load was about 7,400, and the cost of services was \$59 million.

### Community Mental Health

Mental health services at home and in community clinics are available to individuals who have been discharged from a psychiatric hospital who do not require inpatient care. In 1977-78, the cost of the program was \$36.3 million.

The Mental Health Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.269.

The Mental Hospitals Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.270.

The Homes for Special Care Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.205.

## REHABILITATION AND CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S TRAINING CENTRES

These centres provide rehabilitation day care for handicapped children. The Toronto centre offers care also on an inpatient basis. Services include physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech training, medical consultation with diagnostic services, social and education services. There are sixteen centres in the province and in 1978, these centres reported a case load of 1,942 patients. The 1978-79 budget for the health component was \$6.6 million.

## HEALTH EDUCATION

Almost all preventive services have an education component. However, some programs specifically focus on health education to reinforce public awareness of a particular problem.

### Health Information Centres

Health information is provided on a variety of health topics and services. Pamphlets and posters are distributed upon request to centres, usually located in a health facility. In 1978-79, over 6,000,000 copies were distributed and the cost for the program was approximately \$200,000.

### Immunization Awareness Program

The program promotes the need for and the benefits of immunization, stressing the value of prevention in childhood diseases. Printed material is distributed, through health units, giving information on childhood diseases, the immunization schedule and the location of services. In 1978-79, 150,000 items were distributed. The cost of the program was \$180,000.

### Dental Health Education

The program consists of printed material on preventive dental care, habits and hygiene for children and the elderly. In 1978-79, the cost of the program was \$200,000.

### V.D. Information Kit

The kit contains information on sexually transmitted diseases. It is designed primarily for use by teachers in health education classes in Ontario schools. Three hundred kits were distributed in 1977-78, for a cost of \$30,000.

## MINISTRY OF HOUSING

### INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Housing operates programs that are intended to help families and individuals of low and moderate income to obtain adequate shelter at a cost within their means. Almost all of these programs are cost shared with the federal government, as well as with municipalities.

In the 1960s, emphasis was placed on the development of public housing projects reserved exclusively for low-income families and elderly persons with limited means. During the 1970s, the focus has shifted to the provision of rent supplements to those in low-income groups, so that they need not be physically segregated from those of higher income in the community.

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Housing Publications  
Ministry of Housing  
2nd Floor, 56 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto, Ontario

(416) 965-9784

or by calling your local housing authority listed in the telephone directory.

### FAMILY PUBLIC HOUSING

Rent-geared-to-income housing at approximately 20% of gross income is provided to families with children and to the physically handicapped. This project-type housing serves exclusively low-income households. It is administered either by a local housing authority or directly by the Ontario Housing Corporation. There are approximately 39,000 housing units of this type in Ontario, provided through a total annual subsidy of about \$110 million.

The Housing Development Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.213.  
The Ontario Housing Corporation Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.317.

### SENIOR CITIZEN PUBLIC HOUSING

Apartment accommodation is provided for single persons or couples sixty years of age or over on a rent-geared-to-income basis. Again, rents are about 20% of income. This housing is in project-type developments. Most tenants are dependent on basic government pensions. As with family housing, the projects are managed by local housing authorities or directly by the Ontario Housing Corporation. There are about 43,000 such apartments occupied by senior citizens, with a total annual subsidy of about \$90 million.

Metro Toronto Housing Company Limited is the only other housing agency

in Ontario that develops and manages senior citizen public housing. It currently has about 8,500 such units, provided at an annual cost of roughly \$9 million.

The Housing Development Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.213.

The Ontario Housing Corporation Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.317.

### RENT SUPPLEMENTS

Rent-geared-to-income housing is provided for the same income groups and eligibility categories as public housing (families, senior citizens and the physically handicapped). Instead of living in public housing projects, tenants are housed in private rental units, and the government pays the difference between the geared-to-income rent and the market rent. There are over 8,000 such rental units in Ontario, subsidized at a cost of about \$20 million per annum.

The Housing Development Amendment Act, S.O. 1974, c.31.

The Ontario Housing Corporation Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.317.

### NON-PROFIT HOUSING

The program provides rental housing for moderate-income families and individuals with rents below the market level for comparable accommodation. Housing of this type is developed by non-profit housing groups established by municipalities or by community organizations such as churches or service clubs. Generally some units in these projects are leased to low-income earners on a rent-geared-to-income basis. Various forms of subsidy are provided by governments. There are about 15,000 such units in Ontario.

The Housing Development Amendment Act, S.O. 1974, c.31.

### ONTARIO HOME RENEWAL

The purpose of the program is to assist owner-occupants to repair or improve their houses, especially substandard structural and sanitary conditions, plumbing, heating and electrical systems and insulation. The Ministry provides capital grants to municipalities to administer loans and/or grants of up to \$7,500 to owner-occupants whose adjusted family income is no greater than \$12,500. To date, about \$108 million has been expended on this program, covering more than 22,000 housing units.

The Housing Development Amendment Act, S.O. 1974, c.31.



## RURAL HOUSING

The Ministry has developed an ownership-geared-to-income program for low-income families in small communities (under 2,500 population). Many of these communities are in remote northern areas. The occupant pays about 25% of his or her income for shelter, exclusive of utilities. To date, about 400 units have been constructed in several dozen communities. The total annual subsidy is roughly \$1 million, of which the provincial share is \$250,000.

The Housing Development Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.213.

## MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TOURISM

### INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Industry and Tourism offers no programs directly related to the family, but it does provide facilities in support of family activities.

Further information about these facilities can be obtained from

Communications Division  
Ministry of Industry and Tourism  
9th Floor, Hearst Block  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 2E1

(416) 965-4014

### ONTARIO PLACE

Ontario Place provides a wide variety of facilities and hosts attractions for all ages and groups. The complex, located on Toronto's waterfront, includes stages for live entertainment, a movie theatre and an elaborate play area for children. The facilities are open from May to October each year.

### ONTARIO TRAVEL INFORMATION CENTRES

The Ministry is responsible for about thirty-eight Ontario Travel Information Centres scattered across the province. These centres provide travel and other information on request and at no charge. Their function is to assist travellers from within and outside Ontario to find the facilities and attractions that suit their needs and preferences. Families are, of course, heavy users of these services.

## MINISTRY OF LABOUR

### INTRODUCTION

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Information Services  
Ministry of Labour  
2nd Floor, 400 University Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario  
(416) 965-7941

### EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

The Ministry's Employment Standards Branch enforces minimum standards (including those for persons working in their homes for an employer), respecting wages, maximum hours of work, overtime pay, public holidays and paid vacation. It also requires equal pay for equal work, notice of termination, pregnancy leave for workers with one year and eleven weeks' seniority, and non-discrimination in benefit plans, where provided. The Branch is responsible for the enforcement of legislation respecting industrial standards, fair wages on government contracts and employment agency legislation.

In 1978-79, assessments were performed for more than 18,000 employees. The Branch budget for the year was just under \$3 million.

The Employment Standards Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.147.

### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION BOARD

The Workmen's Compensation Board provides compensation benefits to workers and their dependents when disability or death results from a work-related accident. (Common-law spouses are included among eligible dependents.) In addition, the Board provides rehabilitation services for injured workers; it funds the activities of the province's nine safety associations; and, through the Safety Education Division, it promotes first aid training for employees. In 1978, \$652.2 million was disbursed in workmen's compensation awards and payments. Regular benefit payments amounted to \$382.2, and legislated increases (effective July 1, 1978) accounted for \$270 million. Almost 425,000 work-related incidents were reported as accidents. Of those allowed, about 40% were lost-time claims involving the payment of compensation.

The Workmen's Compensation Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.505.

The Workmen's Compensation Insurance Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.506.

## ONTARIO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

The Ontario Human Rights Commission protects individuals (including children) from discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodation, services and facilities on the grounds of race, creed, colour, nationality, ancestry, place of origin, age, sex and marital status. The Commission also undertakes programs to educate the public in inter-group relations in a multi-racial and multi-ethnic society, and aids in reducing potentially tense situations. In 1978-79, more than 18,000 inquiries were received by the Commission, and 980 complaints were laid which required investigation. The Commission's budget for the year was about \$1.8 million.

The Ontario Human Rights Code, R.S.O. 1970, c.318.

## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY DIVISION

Programs administered by the Occupational Health and Safety Division protect workers (and, indirectly, their families) through the establishment and enforcement of standards and guidelines for exposure to health and safety hazards in the workplace. The Division also provides consultative services to companies and unions; monitors technological innovations; and carries out industrial, construction and mining inspections and investigations to assess conformity with provincial legislation. The budget appropriation for the Division in 1978-79 was about \$18.5 million.

The Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1978,  
(to be proclaimed on October 1, 1979.)

## EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN

The Women's Bureau educates the workforce about the rights of women in employment, provides consultative services for those agencies or organizations (public or private) which are involved in occupational counselling and undertakes employment counselling. In 1978-79, the Bureau distributed 250,000 copies of its publications; handled 6,000 telephone inquiries; worked with nearly 100 employers, consultants and unions through the affirmative action program; and consulted with approximately forty community groups. The budget of the Bureau in fiscal year 1978-79 was about \$424,000.

The Ministry maintains a Women Crown Employee's Office, whose purpose is to promote affirmative action programs aimed at raising and diversifying the occupational distribution of women working in Crown organizations. The office budget for 1978-79 was about \$209,000.

## EMPLOYMENT OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS

In the fall of 1978, the Ministry established a program designed to maximize employment opportunities in the private sector for physically handicapped persons. The program emphasizes consultation with public and private agencies, as well as the development of pilot projects and educational initiatives. The program cost for 1979-80 is expected to be about \$108,000.



### QUALITY OF WORKING LIFE

The Ministry is concerned with enhancing the quality of working life for Ontario residents. To this end, it has established a Centre that will work in collaboration with individuals and organizations throughout the province, to develop and maintain activities and programs in several critical areas: field project work, education, the provision of information and consultation services, and research. The budget for the Centre in 1979-80 is about \$500,000.

## MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### INTRODUCTION

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Information Services  
Ministry of Natural Resources,  
R. 5340, Whitney Block  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 1W3

(416) 965-2756

### EXHIBITS

In 1978-79, the Ministry produced forty-five exhibits dealing with various aspects of natural resource management. All messages and material were geared for both adults and children.

Exhibits included four major Ontario shows: the Canadian National Sportsmen's Show (Toronto); the International Plowing Match (Wingham); the Lakehead Exhibition (Thunder Bay); and the Central Canada Exhibition (Ottawa). There were also thirty-four smaller exhibits at county fairs, small-town functions, and shopping malls in communities across the province. Attendance at the four major exhibits was 350,000, and the Ministry's budget for all shows and exhibits was \$105,000.

The Ministry of Natural Resources Act, S.O. 1972, c.4.

### FOREST RESOURCES

The Ministry, through district forest resources staff, offers a variety of seminars, tours and educational outings for private land woodlot managers who are Woodlot Improvement Act agreement holders. These outings, usually designed around one central theme, often take the form of a one-day event including audio-visual presentations, lectures by Ministry forest resources staff and a tour of a woodlot to demonstrate various management techniques. The publication "Your Forests" also goes out to agreement holders and their families three times a year. In addition, Ministry forest staff organize educational outings for the general public. Walks in the Forest are held in a number of districts throughout Ontario every year.

The Woodlots Improvement Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.502.

## MINERAL RESOURCES

Ministry mines personnel give a number of different courses to the public in various parts of Ontario.

### Mineral Exploration

The program consists of a series of six evening lectures on introductory geology and earth sciences. Classes are offered twice a year: once in Thunder Bay, Timmins or another northern Ontario city, and once in Toronto.

### Special Topics

Once a year, in Toronto, a series of lectures is presented by professionals from mining companies, universities and government for those engaged in mining and mineral exploration.

### Practical Field Work

Two field work courses a year are given in the vicinity of Madoc.

The Mining Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.274.

## COTTAGING PROGRAM

The Crown cottaging program is one of many programs by the Ministry of Natural Resources which have a strong recreational appeal to the family. Two types of cottaging are offered to the public: remote sites and subdivision lots.

### The Remote Cottage Program

Low-density frontier cottaging is available north of the French and Mattawa rivers. Cottage sites are provided for interim land use with authority issuing for ten years. Two types of remote sites are offered: waterway sites and inland sites (located at least a quarter of a mile from water). In keeping with the concept of frontier living and interim land use, no water supply pressure systems or water carriage systems are allowed. This program is available only to Ontario residents.

In 1978, 209 remote sites were taken up. The current inventory of sites is 531, and another forty-five will be added in 1979-80.

### Subdivision Lots

In the traditional form of cottage development, lots are laid out in a linear fashion adjacent to a lake. Subdivision lots offer a strong appeal to the

family because of the recreational opportunities offered by the lake. Activities include swimming, power boating, sailing, canoeing, waterskiing and fishing. Hiking, cross-country skiing, hunting and snowmobiling are other uses generated by cottaging.

During 1978, 450 linear cottage lots were offered to the general public; but because of lack of demand and other reasons, only 289 were taken up. There are now 501 linear lots on inventory, and it is anticipated that an additional 538 will become marketable in 1979-80.

The Public Lands Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.380.

### CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES

Ontario's thirty-eight Conservation Authorities co-ordinate water management programs and projects in other fields of resource management, such as the acquisition and protection of unusual or sensitive natural and cultural features and the development of recreational facilities on lands acquired for water management. The Conservation Authorities operate historical sites and museums. They also provide and manage campgrounds, swimming areas, boat launching sites, pedestrian nature trails, bridle trails, snowmobile trails, cross-country and downhill skiing facilities and outdoor education programs for the general public and organized school groups. Facilities for the handicapped include special washrooms, ramp access to interpretive centres and special nature trails. There are about 2,800 campsites in conservation areas for family use. The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (Eastern Region) has two summer camps for families.

The Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.78.

### FISH HATCHERIES

The Ministry operates fourteen fish hatcheries in Ontario as part of the fisheries management program. These hatcheries offer free tours for the general public and organized school groups, with accompanying verbal descriptions of the operations and interpretive literature. The total number of visitors in 1978 was 87,000, and the public relations budget for the program was \$10,700.

The Game and Fish Act of Ontario, R.S.O. 1970, c.186.

### WILDLIFE

District Offices of the Ministry's Wildlife Branch offer a number of bird watching, waterfowl viewing and birds-of-prey interpretive programs at various locations throughout the province. In 1978, wildlife interpretation weekends were held at Long Point, Presqu'ile Provincial Park and the Leslie Spit in Toronto. Interpretive facilities also are being developed at the Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary near Cornwall.



The Ministry operates thirty-two provincial wildlife areas in southern Ontario to provide wildlife-based recreation, such as hunting and viewing. Similar viewing is also available in ten wildlife extension areas, established by agreements with landowners.

The Game and Fish Act of Ontario, R.S.O. 1970, c.186.

### PROVINCIAL PARKS

The Ministry operates 128 provincial parks in six classes: wilderness parks, nature reserves, natural environment parks, waterway parks, historical parks and recreation parks. Activities include overnight camping; day-use activities such as swimming, picnicking, hiking and canoeing; and winter activities, such as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, ice-skating (three parks), ice fishing and tobogganing. Some parks also offer interpretive lectures and displays, and nature trails.

The Provincial Parks Branch administers a winter trails recreation program that provides \$500,000 in grants to trail clubs and Conservation Authorities, to assist in the grooming and maintenance of more than 8,000 miles of snowmobile and cross-country ski trails throughout the province. The Ministry also maintains 1,000 miles of winter trails on Crown land and in provincial parks. Provincial parks are open year-round, but staff are not on duty in all but three parks, and facilities such as running water, electricity and firewood are not provided in the off-season. During the early part of the camping season, the Ministry imposes a ban on the use of alcohol in thirteen provincial parks to protect family campers from disturbances and rowdiness.

Park facilities include 20,000 car campsites, 3,000 interior park sites, 44,000 day-use parking spaces, seventy-three miles of beach, 55,000 picnic tables, 3,000 miles of canoe routes and 1,000 miles of trails. The Ministry's budget for provincial parks in 1978 was \$27 million.

The Provincial Parks Act of Ontario, R.S.O. 1970, c.371.

### THE LESLIE M. FROST NATURAL RESOURCES CENTRE

A natural resources centre located in Dorset, Ontario was opened in 1974 as a facility for fostering wider public understanding and appreciation of Ontario's natural resources. The centre offers a residential and day-use outdoor education program designed to expose both children and adult groups to a variety of experiences in nature and conservation. Specialists in fish and wildlife, forestry, lands, minerals and recreation are available to offer their expertise and guidance to groups. Their aim is to develop programs that inform, educate and demonstrate the concepts and practices of resource management.

The Ministry of Natural Resources Act, R.S.O. 1972, c.4.

## MINISTRY OF REVENUE

### INTRODUCTION

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Information Services Section  
Guaranteed Income and Tax Credit Branch  
Ministry of Revenue  
77 Bloor Street West, 10th Floor  
Toronto, Ontario

In Metro Toronto 965-8470  
In area code 807-ask the Operator for Zenith 8-2000  
All other areas-dial 1-800-268-7121

### THE ONTARIO GUARANTEED ANNUAL INCOME SYSTEM (GAINS)

The GAINS program ensures that qualified resident pensioners receive a supplement to their monthly income in cases where the total income of the pensioner is less than the amount guaranteed by Ontario. In 1979-80, the GAINS program will deliver nearly \$97 million to 235,000 pensioners.

The Guaranteed Annual Income Act, S.O. 1974, c.58.

### THE ONTARIO TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

The Ontario Tax Credit Program is a multi-facet program funded by the Province of Ontario and administered as an integral part of the federal Income Tax system. The Property, Sales and Pensioner Tax Credits provide a mechanism for relating Property Tax and Retail Sales Tax to the individual's ability to pay, thereby improving the fairness of the provincial and municipal tax systems. The net amount of credits available to a tax filer depends on his or her taxable income, age, family circumstances and the Property Taxes or rent paid in the year, subject to an overall maximum of \$500.

It is estimated that during the 1979-80 fiscal year, the Ontario Tax Credit program will distribute nearly \$455 million to 3 million Ontario residents.

The Income Tax Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.217.

### RETAIL SALES TAX

Provisions of The Retail Sales Tax Act allow for exemptions from paying retail sales taxes on the purchase of many goods which relate directly to both individuals and families. Some of the items that do not require payment of sales taxes are most food products, home heating fuels and electricity, certain personal hygiene and household products, certain sizes of children's clothing, all shoes under \$30.00, drugs and medicines sold on prescription, and certain students' supplies. A detailed listing of these and other exemptions is available from the Retail Sales Tax Branch in the Ministry or from Retail Sales Tax District Offices.

The Retail Sales Tax Act, R.S.O. 1970, c.415.

## MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

### INTRODUCTION

The Ministry is responsible for a wide network of transportation and communications facilities in Ontario. It also provides traffic safety teaching materials to public and separate schools, police departments and other organizations across the province. This service may be regarded as directly benefitting the family.

Information about specific Ministry programs can be obtained from

Public and Safety Information Branch  
Ministry of Transportation and Communications  
West Tower, 1201 Wilson Avenue  
Downsview, Ontario  
M3M 1J8

(416) 248-3501

or by calling your local Ministry office listed in the telephone directory.

### NURSERY SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

The Ministry operates a program aimed at teaching very young children (four to five years of age) the basic rules of traffic safety. At this stage, pictures are used to depict various situations. A teacher's manual, set of posters and simple handout literature for the children to take home are supplied (free of charge) to public and separate schools.

### ELMER THE SAFETY ELEPHANT

A second program is aimed at children in grades 1 through 4. It stresses Elmer's six traffic safety rules, including proper walking habits, playing in a safe place away from traffic, crossing the street safely and bicycle safety. This program is available in the province to all schools and reinforced by personal visits by police safety officers. Teaching materials and handout literature are supplied.

### BICYCLE SAFETY

The Ministry supplies teaching materials for a complete bicycle instruction program, entitled "The Go Safely Cyclers Course". Courses are conducted by schools, safety organizations, service clubs, cubs, scouts, girl guides and similar groups. The program outlines all the rules and regulations pertaining to bicycle driving in Ontario.

### SEAT BELT SAFETY

A teaching program for young children has been designed by the Ministry.

### SCHOOL BUS AND SCHOOL SAFETY PATROLS

Two Ministry programs are aimed at instructing children in the junior and senior grades on proper behaviour when riding on a school bus. As well, materials are supplied for students in grades 7 and 8 who are acting as school bus patrollers or school foot patrollers.

### DRIVER EDUCATION

The Ministry provides complete instructional program materials to all 600 Ontario high schools that conduct driver education classes. This program provides students sixteen years of age and over with twenty-five hours of classroom instruction and a minimum of eight hours practice behind the wheel of a car. Upon completion of this course, students are qualified to obtain an Ontario class "G" driver's licence.

## ONTARIO YOUTH SECRETARIAT

### INTRODUCTION

Information about specific programs can be obtained from:

Ontario Youth Secretariat  
2nd Floor, 700 Bay Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5G 1Z6

(416) 965-3540

### ONTARIO EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

The Ontario Youth Secretariat is responsible for coordinating the development of a special summer employment initiative, called Experience. In 1979, the program provided 13,600 summer employment opportunities for young people throughout Ontario. The 111 components of Experience '79 were sponsored by 24 ministries, often in association with established community agencies such as local municipalities, conservation authorities, school boards, museums, etc.

The maximum duration of employment is 17 weeks. Types of employment available span a broad range of fields including legal, recreational, commercial and social services. All Experience positions pay the provincial minimum wage.

### ONTARIO YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (OYEP)

In operation since 1977, OYEP stimulates the creation of new jobs for Ontario residents between the ages of 15 and 24 years through providing eligible employers with a grant of \$1.25 per hour toward a young person's wages. The program is 25 weeks in duration commencing in April. Employers are eligible for a grant in respect of a maximum of 150 weeks of work during this period.

Although all participants receive at least the minimum wage, actual rates of pay are determined by the individual employer. The type of work available through OYEP is representative of the activities engaged in by the business and farming sectors of the Ontario economy. It is anticipated that in 1979 more than 40,000 positions will be made available. The program was designed in conjunction with the Youth Secretariat and is now administered by the Subsidies Branch of the Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Ontario Youth Employment Act, S.O. 1977, c.12,  
O. Reg. 514/77; 935/77; 128/79.



## SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

### Secondary School Cooperative Education

In the 1979-80 school year, the provincial government will provide the out-of-school component of the cooperative education at the secondary school level. The placement of co-op students will be centrally coordinated by the Youth Secretariat through liaison with ministries and boards of education.

Students will be assigned to ministries for a total of 20 weeks and will receive a weekly allowance of \$15.00. One hundred and ten secondary school students are expected to participate during the first year of operation.

### High School Visitations

Seminars are conducted by the field staff, on subjects such as resume composition, job search techniques, "making your own job", provincial employment programs, and the role of the Youth Secretariat. More than 200 high school visits are conducted each year, with a minimum of two seminars per visit.

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